

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, DECEMBER 17, 2012
PRESIDENT CRAIG PRESIDING**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Craig called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Secretary Patti Iverson confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed and was in compliance with the open meeting law.

Roll call was taken and the following commissioners were present: Craig, Cummins, Duax, Janke, and Johnson. Absent: Faanes and Wogahn. Student Representatives Betsy Fawcett was present. Jonathan Idarraga was not present.

PUBLIC FORUM

Sara Drury is a teacher at Longfellow and served as the elementary representative on the calendar committee. She thanked the Board for allowing the teachers' voices to be heard during the process of establishing the school calendar.

North teacher, Jason Verdon, echoed those statements. He said it was important to look at ways to decrease the time that teachers spend outside of the classroom for professional development, and the proposal did that. He felt that weekly PD opportunities were much more valuable than sporadic events.

BOARD/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hardebeck shared a list of events on the Board's calendar for the next month.

Dr. Hardebeck thanked Carole Halberg who has served as the founding Executive Director of the EC Public Schools Foundation and is retiring. She was instrumental in organizing and establishing the Founding Partners Program, established a partnership with the Community Foundation, and secured a quarter million dollars in cash and commitments. Dr. Hardebeck shared Ms. Halberg's work history. On January 2, 2013, Mary Beth Kelley-Lowe will begin her duties as the new Executive Director. Dr. Hardebeck shared Ms. Kelley-Lowe's work history and welcomed her to this new position.

Superintendent Hardebeck said the district has been reviewing its safety plans and working with the police department in the wake of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School to make sure all reasonable precautions are being taken. The district will be severely limiting access to schools by monitoring entrances so that only those people with legitimate business are allowed inside. She said that protecting our children is a community effort, and if anyone thinks something is amiss, they should report it to the police or a school official. Dr. Hardebeck said she was deeply saddened

and concerned for the community of Newtown, Connecticut, and extended her deepest sympathy to them.

Communication to Superintendent/Board President

President Craig reminded Board members of the annual WASB convention in Milwaukee on January 23-25, 2013.

Student Representative Report

Betsy Fawcett said the new safety procedures have led to some inconveniences for students but students are understanding and feel safe.

Other Reports

Policy and Governance Committee

There was no report.

Budget Development Committee

There was no report.

CONSENT RESOLUTION AGENDA

Board members asked to pull Resolution 6 from the consent agenda.

Com. Cummins moved, seconded by Com. Johnson, to approve the consent resolution agenda consisting of the following items:

- ◆ The minutes of Board meeting of December 3, 2012 as mailed.
- ◆ The financial report as presented.
- ◆ The budget adjustments as presented.
- ◆ The gifts in the amount of \$2,897.15 for the period November 1, 2012, through November 30, 2012, as presented.
- ◆ The matters of employment of December 17, 2012, as presented.
- ◆ Revisions to ECASD Policy 832 – Weapons on School Premises
- ◆ The payment of all bills in the amount of \$7,313,017.56 and net payroll in the amount of \$5,492,126.67 for the period November 1, 2012, through November 30, 2012, as presented.

Consent resolution agenda items approved by unanimous roll call vote.

INDIVIDUALLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #6 – Resolution Authorizing the Borrowing of Not to Exceed \$2,850,000; And Providing for the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Promissory Notes Therefor

Mr. Van De Water explained that under Option 1 the tax levy does not increase. It requires that the additional principal and interest fit into the existing revenue limit. Any

debt not issued by referendum must come under that level. With Option 2 the principal and interest on that debt is in addition to the tax levy and is added to the debt service fund tax levy.

Com. Cummins moved, seconded by Com. Johnson, to adopt resolution authorizing the borrowing of not to exceed \$2,850,000, and providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation promissory notes therefor. Carried by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Craig, Cummins, Janke and Johnson. Nay: Duax.

Regular meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Patti Iverson, Board Secretary

**COMMITTEE MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION – EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN
DECEMBER 17, 2012**

1. Call to Order – Committee Meeting

Board Members present: Craig, Cummins, Duax, Janke, and Johnson. Absent: Faanes and Wogahn. Student Representatives Betsy Fawcett was present. Jonathan Idarraga was not present.

2. Committee Reports/Items for Discussion

A. Discussion & Possible First Reading of ECASD Policy 454 – Reporting Child Abuse/Neglect

Robyn Criego shared a draft of the revised ECASD Policy 454. She noted that the revisions were made due to changes in State Statute 48.981. All district employees are now mandated to report suspected or threatened child abuse or neglect. School boards must require every employee to receive DPI-provided training in identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect. Districts must not retaliate against a person who reports child abuse or neglect in good faith. It was suggested that ‘school employees’ be changed to ‘district employees’ throughout the policy.

Com. Duax shared the first reading of Policy 454—Reporting Child Abuse/Neglect:

The Board of Education recognizes the legal and ethical obligations that district employees have to report all suspected or threatened child abuse or neglect. Therefore, the Board requires all district employees to carry out those obligations with due diligence in accordance with state law requirements.

Any district employee who has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been abused or neglected or has reason to believe that a child has been threatened with abuse or neglect, shall report that suspicion or belief to the appropriate authorities as quickly as possible.

The Board directs the administration to develop rules which will provide direction for district employees in identifying and reporting suspected or threatened child abuse or neglect. Such rules should make district employees aware that, by state statute, the District shall not take any disciplinary action against or discriminate against the employee in regard to employment, or threaten the employee with any such treatment for making a child abuse or neglect report in good faith under this policy. In addition, employees shall be subject to disciplinary action, as well as penalties under state law, for failure to report suspected or threatened child abuse or neglect which they have knowledge of or for divulging confidential child abuse and neglect report information to an unauthorized person.

To maintain awareness on the part of all district employees of their child abuse and neglect reporting responsibilities, each employee shall participate in required training in identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect.

This policy will be brought back for final adoption at the January 7, 2013, meeting.

B. 2013-2014 School Calendar

Kay Marks said a committee was formed to brainstorm creative ideas for the 2013-2014 school calendar. The committee focused on four key areas: 1) reducing time staff is out of the classroom for professional development, 2) revisiting the eight-hour day expectation, 3) providing for on-going professional development throughout the year, and 4) providing time for parent-teacher conference days so as not to interfere with student activities. The committee proposed a calendar that accomplished these things and it was shared with the Board.

The Board discussed the concept of Professional Development (PD) Wednesdays, where staff would dedicate every Wednesday of the school year to PD at the district, building or department level. They also looked at the proposal to offer conferences on an evening with the fewest number of conflicts for all involved—Wednesday. During first semester parents can chose either Monday or Wednesday for conferences and second semester they can chose either Tuesday or Wednesday.

President Craig said the Board had asked for a follow-up report on the eight-hour days in January 2013 and she asked that they receive that information.

This item will be brought back as a consent resolution at the next meeting.

C. CVMCS Yearly Report

Montessori Principal Todd Johnson reviewed the Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School's yearly report and answered questions asked by Board members about the report. The Board directed administration to review the Montessori contract with identification of potential modifications keeping in mind contract timelines.

3. Request for Future Agenda Items

The Board will receive the resolutions for the 2013 WASB Delegate Assembly at the next meeting.

4. Other Business

5. Motion to Adjourn

Com. Janke moved, seconded by Com. Cummins, to adjourn meeting. Carried by unanimous voice of acclamation.

6. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.